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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/354,375	07/14/1999	WOLFGANG EIBACH	GE998-058	5076

7590 11/12/2003

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EXAMINER

AVELLINO, JOSEPH E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2143

DATE MAILED: 11/12/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/354,375

Applicant(s)

EIBACH ET AL.

Examiner

Joseph E. Avellino

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6 is/are rejected:
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 4-6 stand pending for examination. The Office acknowledges the cancellation of claims 1-3.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moy et al. (USPN 4,864,511) (hereinafter Moy) in view of Wallace et al. (USPN 5,938,708) (hereinafter Wallace).

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4. Moy discloses a multitasking operating system (LMU functional software control system) for handling static and dynamic tasks, comprising:

an operating system (LMU functional software control system) for handling static and dynamic tasks (col. 52, lines 22-57);

a dynamic task being destroyed when it completes in order to free system resources used to perform said dynamic task (col. 52, lines 22-33); and

a control task (static task) being suspended rather than destroyed when it completes so that it can be reactivated later when required again without rebuilding needed system resources (col. 52, lines 22-42).

Moy does not disclose that the operating system is designed for handling motor vehicle tasks. In analogous art (i.e. operating system handling static and dynamic tasks such as event queues and vehicle processes, see abstract) Wallace discloses a multitasking operating system which is designed for use in handling motor vehicle tasks including static control tasks (event queues, designed for a single purpose or function) and telematic tasks (such as vehicle processes) (e.g. abstract; Figure 4; col. 6, lines 57-67). It would be obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Moy with Wallace to provide greater throughput by breaking large processes into smaller tasks and executing them separately while waiting for input, thereby increasing efficiency and lowering processing overhead as supported in Wallace (e.g. abstract).

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5. Referring to claim 5, Moy discloses a multitasking operating system for handling static and dynamic tasks. Moy does not specifically disclose the control tasks (static tasks) that complete are suspended directly by the kernel of the operating system rather than by a software layer above the kernel. Wallace discloses the control tasks (static tasks) that complete are suspended directly by the kernel of the operating system rather than by a software layer above the kernel (col. 6, lines 57-67). It would be obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Moy with Wallace to provide greater throughput by breaking large processes into smaller tasks and executing them separately while waiting for input, thereby increasing efficiency and lowering processing overhead as supported in Wallace (e.g. abstract).

6. Claim 6 is rejected for similar reasons as stated above.

Response to Amendment

7. Applicant's arguments filed September 12, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

8. In the remarks, Applicant argues in substance that (1) Wong fails to disclose handling control tasks.

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9. As to point (1) this argument is rendered moot due to the application of new references to meet the newly added claim limitations.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph E. Avellino whose telephone number is (703) 305-7855. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:00-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David A. Wiley can be reached on (703) 308-5221. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

JEA
September 15, 2003


DAVID WILEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100